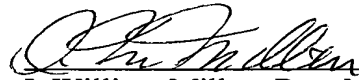


**REMARKS**

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to correct the specification to remove redundancies, inconsistencies and grammatical errors. Another purpose is to amend claim 1 so as to include the concept of providing a sufficient ionic strength to prevent the formation of the black specks during the extraction step, and to add new dependent claims which are directed to the ionic strength and support being found in the specification, for example, on page 8, paragraph [0020B].

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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